(b) to (d) No, Sir. The LPG pipeline project was approved by the GAIL Board of Directors for Visakhapatnam to Secunderabad only after establishing commercial viability.

Supply of LPG at petrol pumps

†2185. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to provide LPG at petrol pumps; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have the plan to set up 228 Auto LPG Dispensing Stations (ALDS) in various cities of the country by the year 2003-04. These ALDS would be set up at the existing Retail Outlets where safety distances as per Chief Controller of Explosives (CCOE) norms are available.

Procedures adopted in Octane Test

†2186. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the kind of containers determined for the sample of Octane Test of adulteration in petrol and diesel;

(b) the details of locations where Octane Test is being conducted;

(c) whether the sample can be collected in the empty bottles of liquor or kerosene; and

(d) whether petrol and diesel pumps get the Octane Test done at the depots of the oil company itself before receiving the delivery of oil; if not, the justification of taking the sample at petrol pumps for the said test?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (c) Samples for Octane Test for Petrol shall be taken in clean glass or aluminium

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

container. However, the preference is given to the aluminium containers with wooden boxes for safe handling of sample in transportation and proper sealing.

(b) The details of locations where octane test is being conducted by Public Sector Oil Companies are as follows :—

Bhopal, New Delhi, Chennai, Vadodara, Begusarai, Noonmati, Digboi, Mathura, Panipat, Midnapur, Faridabad, Bongaigaon, Sewree, Panewadi, Kandla, Mughalsarai, Tondiarpet, Trimpanam, Vizag, Budge Budge, Loni, Sanatnagar, Devangonthi, Managlore and Lucknow.

(d) Octane test is done only for petrol samples before release of products at the refineries. The samples of the same from the terminals/ depots are also monitored for octane testing. Since deterioration in quality of petrol with respect to octane is matter of concern, for market decipline it is justified to take the sample at petrol pumps for octane testing.

Transfer policy of Petroleum Companies

†2187. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the employees/officers in various Petroleum Companies in Delhi who are continuously working at the same place in same office and department for the last 10—15 years;

(b) the policy relating to the transfer of employees/officers working in various companies;

(c) the steps being taken by Government for implementing the transfer policy; and

(d) by when the said transfer policy would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The postings and transfers of Officers and staff in the oil PSUs are governed by the rules of the respective companies and Government do not have any role in the matter. The major ingredients of the transfer

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.